



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2007

FACT SHEET

SAN DIEGO FIRE CLEANUP PROGRAM DEBRIS REMOVAL STARTS TODAY

CITY CONTRACTORS TO ASSIST HOMEOWNERS IN FIRE RECOVERY EFFORTS

- Contractors hired by the City under the City of San Diego Fire Cleanup Program will today begin removing debris from properties where homes were destroyed by the recent wildfires.
- The City has hired the San Diego office of Granite Construction, and AJ Diani from Santa Maria, California, to remove fire debris from properties in the City.
- Each contractor will have up to six crews working to finish all the sites by December 21, 2007.
- Each crew will consist of two equipment operators and two laborers. Each crew will use an excavator and front end loader to clean the sites.
- Granite Construction will clear debris from destroyed homes West of I-15. That firm is doing hazard assessments this week and will begin debris removal next week.
- AJ Diani will clear debris from destroyed homes East of I-15. They began hazard assessments over the weekend and will start debris removal today.
- Site debris removal will follow these steps:
 - Hazard assessment (identifying hazardous waste and potential safety hazards)
 - Watering to keep dust to a minimum
 - Photo documentation of the site
 - Identification and measurement of the areas covered by ash
 - Removing debris
 - Removal and recycling of metals
 - Knocking down standing chimneys

- Removing ash
 - Demolishing and recycling the home's concrete pad
- Taking soil samples
- Installing erosion control measures
- Signs will be located at each site indicating what steps have been completed and what steps are yet to be completed.
- Each site will take between two and five days to complete depending on the complexity and size of the site.
- Property owners will be notified 48 hours in advance of the start of debris removal.
- Property owners have been asked to tag any items they would like to have saved using green tape provided by the City.

VOUCHER PROGRAM BEING USED BY SOME HOMEOWNERS

- Some property owners who chose not to participate in the San Diego Fire Clean-up Program have elected to use the City's recycling and disposal vouchers. The vouchers have been provided to homeowners requesting them from City staff at the Disaster Recovery Center in Rancho Bernardo.
- The full package of recycling/disposal vouchers include:
 - Two vouchers for trash disposal at the Miramar Landfill;
 - Six vouchers for disposal of mixed Construction and Demolition (C&D) material, including concrete, asphalt, brick, and concrete swimming pool material;
 - Five vouchers for concrete slabs delivered to Vulcan Materials facilities;
 - Four vouchers for concrete slabs delivered to Hanson Aggregate facilities;
 - One voucher for concrete slabs delivered to Escondido Sand and Gravel.
- Residents will be responsible for all costs associated with debris removal not covered by a voucher including but not limited to labor, equipment and transportation costs
- Use of vouchers for City of San Diego residents is contingent on hiring a licensed contractor who complies with the specifications contained in "Project Specifications for the Structural Debris Removal" developed by the County of San Diego. These requirements were included in the voucher package.
- Unused vouchers must be returned to the Environmental Services Department in the self-addressed/stamped envelope included in the voucher package. Vouchers are not transferable.